

I CLAIM:

1. A combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system, comprising:

- a fuel dispensing machine;
- a computer controller in communication with the fuel dispensing machine;
- a display in communication with the computer controller;
- an input device in communication with the computer controller,

wherein the input device communicates customer-selected lottery ticket information to the computer controller; and

a dispensing device in communication with the computer controller, wherein the dispensing device dispenses the customer-selected lottery ticket.

2. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, wherein the input device comprises a payment input device adapted to communicate payment information through the computer controller.

3. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 2, wherein the payment input device is adapted to receive and communicate credit card information to the computer controller.

4. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, further comprising a lottery controller interface in communication with the computer controller, the lottery controller interface controlling operation of the lottery ticket dispensing operation.

5. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, wherein the input device comprises an alphanumeric keypad adapted to communicate keypad touches to the computer controller.

6. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, wherein the dispensing device dispenses a fuel payment receipt.

7. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, further comprising a fuel controller interface in communication with the computer controller, the fuel controller interface controlling operation of the fuel dispensing machine.

8. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, further comprising a remote central control computer communicating with the computer controller, the remote central control computer adapted to control the combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system via the computer controller.

9. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of fuel dispensing machines.

10. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, wherein the display displays fuel selection information.

11. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, wherein the display displays the customer-selected lottery ticket information.

12. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 1, further comprising a printing device in communication with a computer controller, the printing device adapted to print information on a substrate prior to dispensation.

13. The combination fuel dispensing and lottery ticket dispensing system of claim 12, wherein the information printed on the substrate is one of the lottery ticket information or customer payment information.

14. A method of dispensing a lottery ticket from a fuel dispensing machine having a computer controller, an input device in communication with the

computer controller, and a dispensing device in communication with a computer controller, comprising the steps of:

- 5                   beginning a fuel dispensing operation;
- during the fuel dispensing operation, inputting customer-selected lottery ticket information via the input device;
- during the fuel dispensing operation, processing, by the computer controller, the customer-selected lottery ticket information; and
- 10                  dispensing, by the dispensing device, the customer-selected lottery ticket.

15               15. The method of dispensing a lottery ticket of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

- inputting payment into the input device; and
- processing payment information by the computer controller.

                  16. The method of dispensing a lottery ticket of claim 15, wherein the payment information is credit card information.

                  17. The method of dispensing a lottery ticket of claim 14, further comprising the step of inputting a customer-requested number selection request via the input device.

                  18. The method of dispensing a lottery ticket of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

- generating a random number result by the computer controller; and
- modifying the lottery ticket information based upon the random
- 5   number result.

                  19. The method of dispensing a lottery ticket of claim 14, wherein the input device is an alphanumeric keypad.

20. The method of dispensing a lottery ticket of claim 14, wherein the fuel dispensing machine has a printing device, and further comprising the step of printing the lottery ticket information by the printing device, prior to dispensation.

11/27/2008 11:27:27 AM